

**Whereas:** In times of crisis, people in Ruston come together to care for one another. This humanitarian spirit is part of the foundation of our community and is exemplified by American Red Cross volunteers and donors; and

**Whereas:** In 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, turning her steadfast dedication for helping others into a bold mission of preventing and alleviating people's suffering. Today, more than 140 years later, we honor the kindness and generosity of Red Cross volunteers here in Ruston, who continue to carry out Clara's lifesaving legacy. They join the millions of people across the United States who volunteer, give blood, donate financially or learn vital life-preserving skills through the Red Cross; and

**Whereas:** In Ruston, the contributions of local Red Cross volunteers give hope to the most vulnerable in their darkest hours — whether it's providing emergency shelter, food and comfort for families devastated by local disasters like home fires, Ruston; donating essential blood for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease; supporting service members and veterans, along with their families and caregivers, through the unique challenges of military life; helping to save the lives of others with first aid, CPR and other skills; or delivering international humanitarian aid; and

**Whereas:** Their work to prevent and alleviate human suffering is vital to strengthening our community's resilience. We dedicate this month of March to all those who continue to advance the noble legacy of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who lived by her words, "You must never think of anything except the need, and how to meet it." We ask others to join in this commitment to give back in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Bruce Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Ruston, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the **month of March 2022** as:

## **Red Cross Month**

and encourage all residents of Ruston to reach out and support its humanitarian mission.

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Bruce Hopkins, Mayor  
City of Ruston